



NOVA SCOTIA Sport Hall of Fame

Honouring Excellence



ANNUAL PROGRAM 2023 – 2024

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THE NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME



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Premier's Message

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, congratulations on being inducted into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.

Participating in sport gives so much to us. It promotes a healthy, active lifestyle and connects us with others in our community.

Each year, the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame recognizes a new class of inductees who are distinguished in their respective sports. The 2023 class recognizes Nova Scotians who have emulated that vision of sport excellence.

Tonight, we celebrate athletes who have won the Stanley Cup, the Vanier Cup, three gold medals at the North American Indigenous Games and who represented Canada at the FIFA Women's World Cup. We also celebrate the first Nova Scotia team to have won the CIAU University Cup National Hockey Championship. I also want to recognize the builders who have dedicated countless hours to building sport in Nova Scotia.

Congratulations again to the inductees, and the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame for making this night possible.

Yours truly,

Honourable Tim Houston, M.L.A.
Premier



OUR MISSION

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame's mission is to honour excellence in Nova Scotia sport by sharing stories of our history and heroes that celebrate, educate and inspire.

OUR VISION

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame's vision is that Nova Scotia sport achievements and history remain sources of value and inspiration to our communities, and sources of education to our youth.

VALUES

- Preserving Nova Scotia sport heritage
- Celebrating excellence in Nova Scotia sport
- Accessibility (to information, the museum facility and programming)
- Sustainability (in finances, culture and environment)
- Best practices
- Diversity and fairness (in our selection process, our programming and our day-to-day operations)
- Inspiring and motivating youth
- Serving and engaging the community

MANDATE

To permanently record Nova Scotia's sport heritage, and to maintain a collection that is representative of that heritage

To recognize, honour and celebrate individuals, teams and organizations who have achieved excellence in, or contributed significantly to, sport in Nova Scotia

To conduct educational programs related to achievements of historical significance in Nova Scotia sport, and to make them available to all Nova Scotians

To make information related to Nova Scotia's sport heritage available and accessible to the general public and other organizations, and to publicize this information to wider audiences including those outside of the province

To serve the community by providing an accessible facility, a variety of programming, and opportunities for engagement and partnerships



The Hall of Fame team: (Left to Right) Shane Mailman, Director of Programs & Operations; Katie Tanner, Museum & Communications Coordinator; Karolyn Sevcik, Manager, Administration & Special Events; and, Bruce Rainnie, President & CEO at the media conference for the announcement of the 2023 inductee class (June 5, 2023).

CEO MESSAGE



Welcome to our favourite event here at the NS Sport Hall of Fame, and one we believe is the finest of its kind in the country! Our annual induction ceremony is something we take great pride in, and our goal is to tell (and preserve) the stories of our heroes to the best of our abilities. We also strive daily to ensure that these stories are told to Nova Scotia youth. Simply put, we believe that kids can learn:

- That you can win with humility and lose with grace
- That even if you're from one of Canada's smallest provinces, you can still achieve national, and even international, acclaim
- That values like hard work, discipline and self-belief still matter

The Induction Class of 2023 is typically outstanding, featuring athletes and builders who have left their marks in this province and far beyond. When you look closely at this class, you realize that greatness can be achieved no matter gender, race, age, geography or socioeconomic standing. That is a powerful message and we work very hard every day to share it.

A huge thank you to our selection panel and committee, who, under the direction of Chair Mark Smith, took on the challenging task of selecting those most deserving of induction. Kudos as well to the staff of the Hall – Karolyn Sevcik, Shane Mailman, and Katie Tanner. They are the best at what they do and their dedication to the Hall and its inductees is unsurpassed.

We are proud to announce that for a fourth straight year, Eastlink is broadcasting the Induction ceremony live to the province and beyond. The crew at Eastlink is so enthusiastic and professional, and it is always a pleasure to be the beneficiaries of their pride, passion and expertise. The NSSHF and Eastlink have collaborated on many projects together and hope there are many more to come in the future.

In closing, thank you for supporting the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, and enjoy what will be a very special evening.

Bruce Rainnie

Bruce Rainnie
President & CEO

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the NSSHF, I want to congratulate all of this year's incredible inductees. Welcome to our Hall and thank you for your remarkable and lasting contributions to sport in the province. I want you to know that your legacies are in good hands, and will be preserved and shared with future generations of Nova Scotia sport heroes.

It has been a challenging 36 months for the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, as it has been for most of the non-profit organizations across the province. However, I am pleased to stand before you tonight and report that we have emerged in a relatively stable position. Part of that is certainly the result of the generous assistance from municipal, provincial, and federal governments. Part of it is the careful management of our operations by staff. And part of it, perhaps the largest part, is the dedicated team of volunteers who believe so strongly in what we do. All of the above have us positioned for an exceptional year in which we plan to build a new hall of fame that promises to be bigger, better and more exciting than anything we have ever offered.

I want to thank my fellow Board members and especially the Hall staff: Karolyn Sevcik, who has been in charge of administration and special events for more than 30 years; Shane Mailman, who has directed programs and operations for 25; and Katie Tanner, who is into her second decade as our museum and communications coordinator. Your dedication to sport and sport heroes in this province is a source of great inspiration. Here's to what promises to be a memorable and rewarding next 12 months...

Sincerely,

Jim Mills

Jim Mills
Chairman

CHAIRS of the HALL OF FAME



John 'Gee'
Ahern
Halifax
1958 – 1968



Hugh Noble
Halifax
1977 – 1979



Dorothy
Walker
Centreville



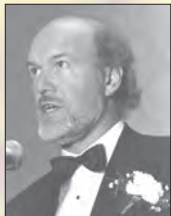
Jim Bayer
Wolfville
1983 – 1985



Bill White
Wolfville
1986 – 1991



Eleanor Norrie
Truro
1991 – 1993



Tom Lynch
Halifax
1993 – 1998



Danny Gallivan
Halifax
1998 – 2001



Fred
MacGillivray
Halifax
2001 – 2010



Floyd Gaetz
Halifax
2010 – 2012



Don Mills
Halifax
2012 – 2014



Rob Randall
Halifax
2014 – 2018



Marc Champoux
Antigonish
2019-2023



Jim Mills
Halifax
2023 – Present



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Collins Barrow

LEGAL COUNSEL

Stephen Russell
Russell Piggott Jones

INCORPORATION

1983

OUR PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Familiar Location, Fresh Vision

Our vision is that Nova Scotia sport achievements and history remain sources of value and inspiration to our communities, and sources of education to our youth.

The increased square footage of the new Hall of Fame will provide ample opportunity for the Hall of Fame to expand its program offerings, not only continuing with a free-admission museum and free education program, but also exploring community partnerships, hosting healthy lifestyle activities, and serving as a gathering place for locals and visitors alike.

The new Hall of Fame will be more than a museum – it will be an easily accessible educational and cultural experience; a regular stop on any family's outing to Halifax; a place where both Nova Scotia sport history and current sport accomplishment can be honoured and appreciated.

Renovations will include an increase in square footage of up to 50%. The NSSHF redesign will allow for many improvements including three key features:

1. The bigger museum area will provide more display space and better recognition of NSSHF inductees
2. The facility will be fully accessible with an improved entrance for those with special mobility needs
3. The NSSHF will be able to bring its entire collection of more than 8,000 artifacts onsite for optimal conservation and preservation of Nova Scotia's sport heritage

We want the new Hall of Fame to be an inspiration to all communities in the province, where all Nova Scotians can feel represented. We believe it is our role as a museum to create a welcoming community hub that honours the value of our sport history and truly takes the words "Celebrate, Educate, and Inspire" to the next level.

Sometimes greatness takes longer than anticipated. We hope to welcome you back in 2024!



Home of the Sidney Crosby Exhibit featuring the world famous family dryer

OUR PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame has continued to offer virtual "Hero Chats" as part of its Future Hall of Famers Education Program. Hero chat guests have included Olympic gymnast Ellie Black, Hall of Famer and first African Nova Scotian NHL Player Bill Riley, World Junior curling champion Karlee Burgess, Hall of Fame basketball team member Augy Jones, and Academy-Award-winning filmmaker Ben Proudfoot. These chats are offered free of charge to all schools across the province, and provide the opportunity for students to submit questions for the speakers prior to the chats. Thousands of students have watched each chat live, with 200-300 classes tuned in per presentation. All chat recordings can be found on our YouTube channel. Our Hero Chats won a 2023 ISHY award for education programming from the International Sports Heritage Association.

Hall of Fame staff members were able to provide in-person education presentations to some March Break and Halifax Rec summer camp groups, followed by an interactive booth at Sport Nova Scotia's Milk Sport Fair this fall (bottom left). The Hall of Fame is currently working to revamp its education program in conjunction with its facility redesign, aiming to better integrate new exhibit content, balance virtual and in-person offerings, and connect activities with new Nova Scotia school curriculums.

The Hall of Fame also had a presence at the World Juniors Fan Zone in Halifax, and installed a hockey exhibit created by the Museum of Industry at Scotiabank Centre, which was available to arena attendees free-of-charge from World Juniors, throughout the Mooseheads season, until the end of May. The exhibit (top left), titled "Hockey: Whose Game Is It?," explored diversity in Nova Scotia's hockey history and won the Museum of Industry an Association of Nova Scotia Museums Award of Excellence for programming by an organization.



Dr. Dan Stuart & Dr. Sarah Davidson
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Congratulations to Joe DiPenta and all the 2023 Inductees to the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame!

Dr. Sarah Davidson & Dr. Dan Stuart

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JOE DIPENTA

by Ryan Francis

In a community rich with hockey history, the answer to the trivia question, “Who was the first player to bring the Stanley Cup home to Cole Harbour?” may surprise you. While answers such as future Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Famers Sidney and Nathan are honourable guesses, those entrenched into the fabric of the Maritime hockey scene will quickly and proudly provide you with the correct answer: Joe DiPenta.

Like many of his fellow Nova Scotian peers before him and after him, Joe’s story to the National Hockey League (NHL) is one of

humble beginnings. Born in Barrie, Ontario, but moving to Cole Harbour at an early age to call it home, Joe excelled at hockey from the start. Hitting the ice at Cole Harbour Place, Joe’s play quickly caught the attention of others.

Paul Mason, a former coach of Joe’s noted, “I remember watching him in novice actually at Scotia One, and I remember seeing him take a wrist shot, and it went over the goalie’s shoulder, and that wasn’t something that happened too often. It was usually a two-bouncer or something from someone, but he shot it high. And then seeing him develop, he was just a poised hockey player at a young age.”

ATHLETE



As Joe continued to develop in local arenas, important milestones began to take shape. One notable achievement was the opportunity to represent Nova Scotia at the 1995 Canada Winter Games. This memorable steppingstone would lead to his first year of junior hockey with the Smith Falls Bears of the Central Canada Hockey League.

After a successful rookie campaign with the Bears, Joe would make his way to Boston University on a full scholarship. His freshman year led to a dream come true with the Florida Panthers calling his name in the 1998 NHL Entry Draft, selecting Joe in the third round, sixty-first overall.

In that same year, the Canadian Hockey League announced that for the first time in franchise history, the Halifax Mooseheads would be hosting the 2000 Memorial Cup. The allure of this and the opportunity to return to Nova Scotia prevailed for Joe, as he would leave Boston University after his sophomore year to don the uniform of his hometown team.

While the Mooseheads fell just short in their pursuit of the Presidents Cup and Memorial Cup, Joe’s only season with the team proved successful with him averaging nearly a point per game. It was time to step into the waters of professional hockey.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

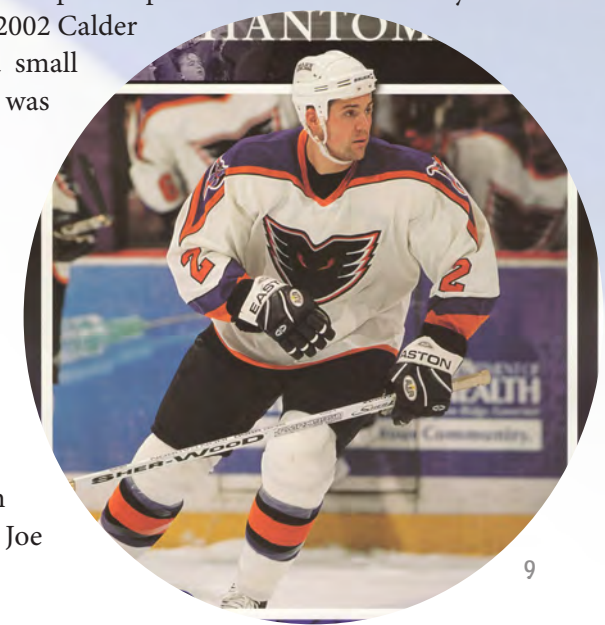
Hometown: Cole Harbour, N.S.

- Stanley Cup winner, 2007
- Calder Cup winner, 2002
- Played more than 600 professional hockey games, including 174 NHL games
- QMJHL All-Star with the Halifax Mooseheads
- Represented Team Atlantic at the World Under-17 Championship, 1995
- Represented Nova Scotia at the Canada Winter Games, 1995

Electing to not sign with the club that drafted him, Joe signed with the Philadelphia Flyers. He made his professional debut with their affiliate team in the American Hockey League (AHL), the Philadelphia Phantoms. Though the 70’s and 80’s were far behind them, the mantra of the Broadstreet Bullies was not. It was in these first two years of professional hockey, Joe was exposed and learned the craft of tough hockey. In contrast, it was in Philadelphia too, where Joe would meet his future wife, Jessica (and unknowingly declined the opportunity to be a celebrity judge with *Slash*, but perhaps that is a story for another time).

Playing with the Chicago Wolves in his third professional season, Joe also had the privilege of being a part of a championship team as they claimed the 2002 Calder Cup. It was a small taste of what was to come.

The following season, Joe made his NHL debut with the Atlanta Thrashers. In three games, Joe



DiPenta (right) with the Calder Cup and his father.



scored his first career NHL goal and added an assist.

During the NHL lockout season in 2003-04, Joe was playing with the Manitoba Moose of the AHL. He was coached by Norris Trophy winner, Randy Carlyle, and it was here that Joe quickly became one of Randy's go-to guys. Carlyle went as far as changing the often-used phrase to help defenseman, "when in doubt, off the glass and out" to "when in doubt, DiPenta and out". This was a fun and affectionate way to compliment Joe's ability to simplify the game, a tool that Joe largely credits Carlyle for bringing out of him.

The next season, with the return of the NHL, Carlyle was hired by Brain Burke to serve as the Head Coach of the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim. An important piece of business for Carlyle was to bring Joe to sunny California. At the age of 26, Joe would become an NHL regular on what would become one of the greatest teams in NHL history.

Entering the 2006-07 season, it was cup or bust for the Ducks. With a defence core including Hall of Famers Scott Niedermayer and Chris Pronger, Joe would play an important depth role on a team focused on this goal. And they delivered, beating the Ottawa Senators in 5 games to win the Stanley Cup. This accomplishment put Joe into a very small and elite group of players who have won both the Calder Cup and Stanley Cup.

Reflecting on this moment, the Stanley Cup is certainly the pinnacle of Joe's career. Joe suited up in over 500 professional hockey games, including 174 of those in the NHL. While Joe held the Stanley Cup over his head for only approximately 6 seconds, his love of the game and his love for people continues to leave an immeasurable legacy in his community.

Ryan Francis is a former Sport Consultant and Mi'kman Sport Coordinator, and a long-time friend of Joe.



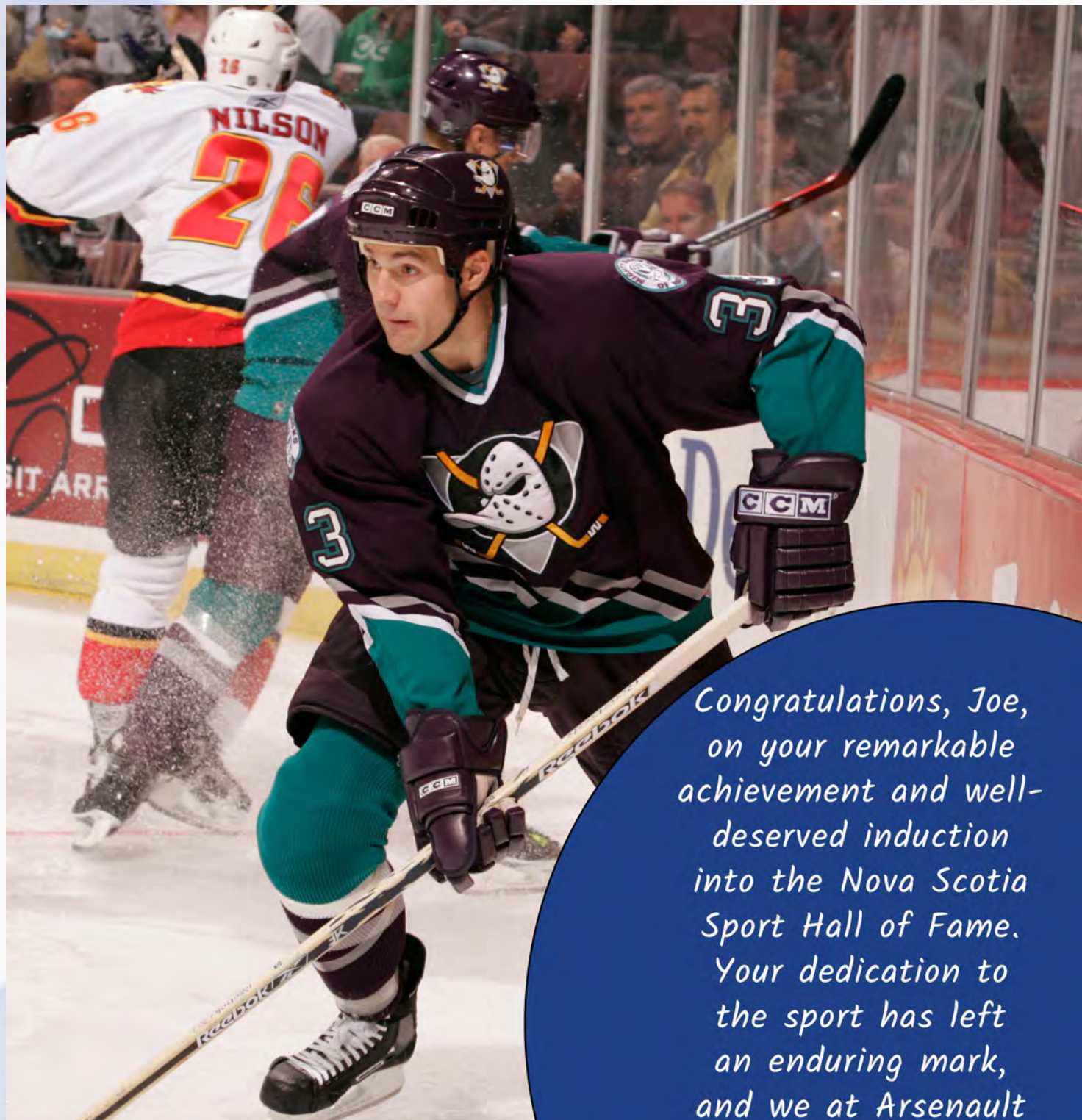
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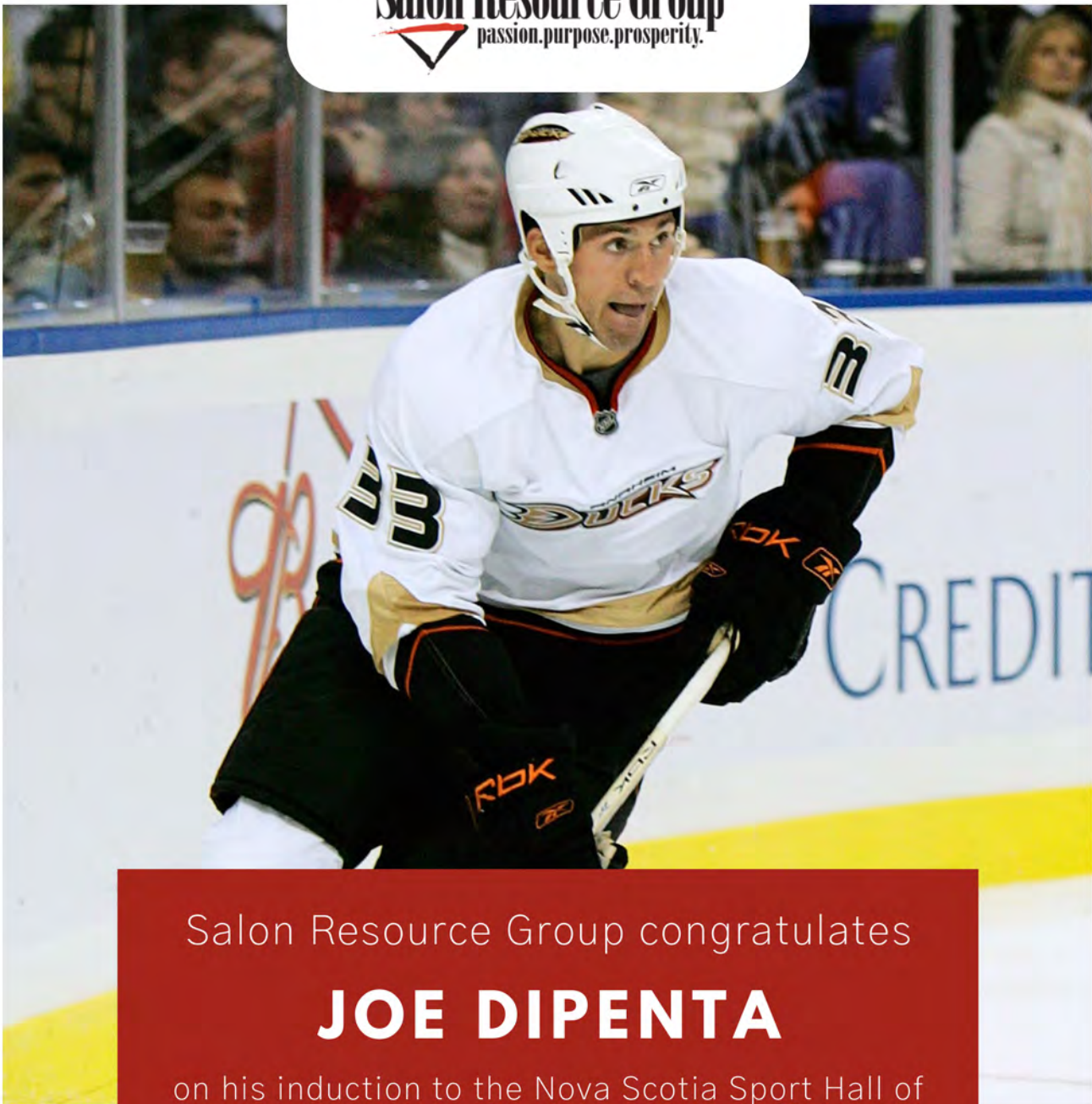
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*Congratulations, Joe,
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into the Nova Scotia
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the sport has left
an enduring mark,
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Salon Resource Group congratulates
JOE DIPENTA

on his induction to the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of
Fame and a successful career on and off the ice.

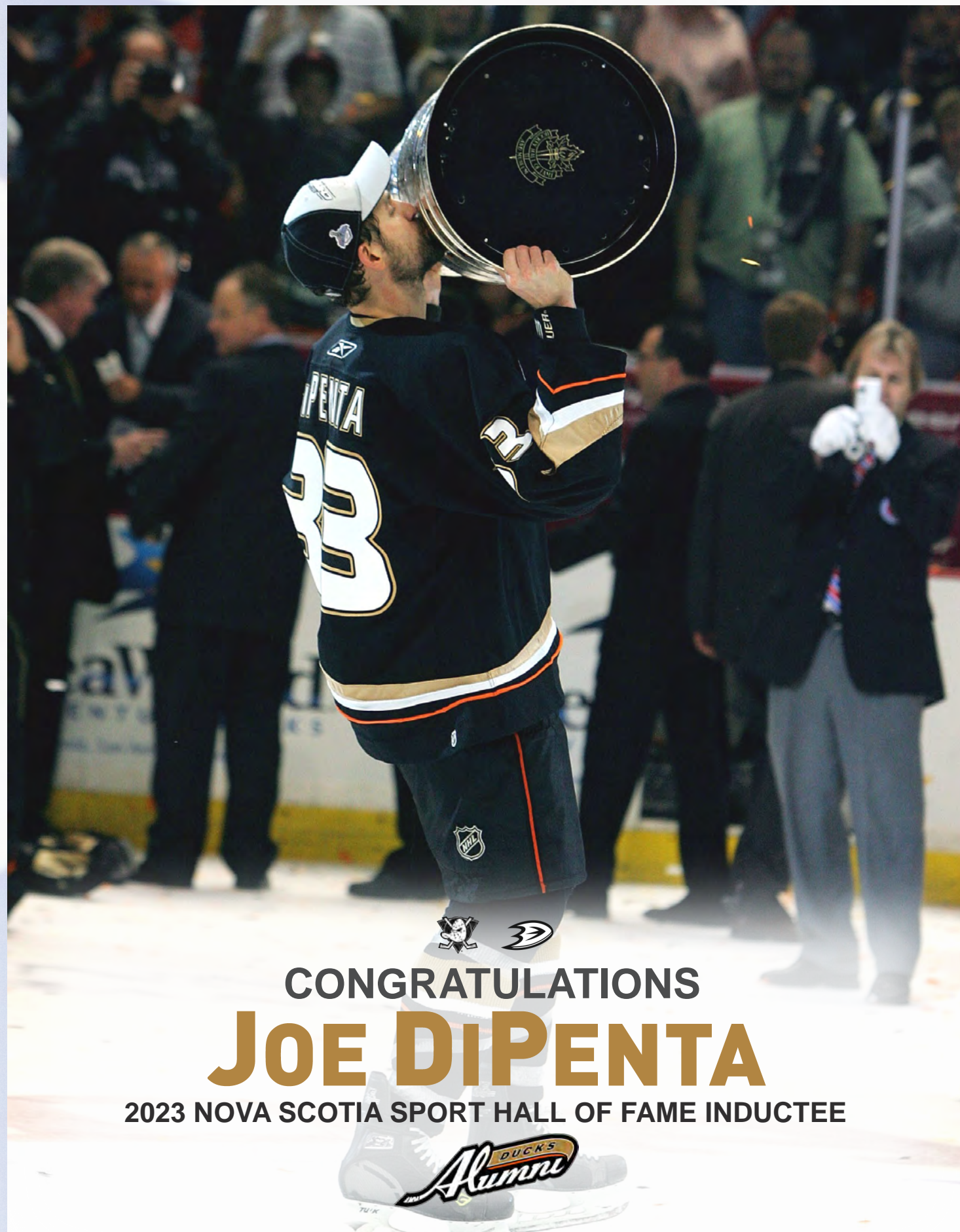
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Enjoy new episodes of Legends of the Hall with Bruce Rainnie Fridays at 10pm on Eastlink Community TV.

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Let's make the link.

SUZANNE GERRIOR



If you ever wondered how far serious talent and a fanatical work ethic might take you, look no further than Nova Scotia soccer legend Suzanne Gerrior.

When you hear people discuss Suzanne, you will inevitably hear the words “driven” and “passionate.” In her case, the context is actually irrelevant.

by Dana Holmes

Whether we are talking about soccer, family or education, Gerrior always had a drive and passion that was unparalleled.

Those close to Suzanne always knew she would excel at whatever she set her mind to.

“Honestly, this may sound cliché, but it’s the truth - I happened to be in the right place at the right time and am a product of my environment,” recalls Gerrior. “I had a beyond supportive family, gifted athletes surrounding me (many of whom are already in the NSSHF) and brilliant, dedicated coaches leading the way.

“The only thing I may have brought to the table was an unquenchable desire to be the best version of myself; a

ATHLETE



gift I received from my father, who passed suddenly last year. We shared a like-mindedness—a passionate, unexplainable drive and focus that often bewildered others.”

Suzanne’s supportive family included her brother Steve, who from an early age did not leave her out of anything.

“Instead of shunning me as his younger sister, he always included me as the only girl in a neighbourhood of boys,” remembers Gerrior. “I was always the last one picked, the slowest, the smallest and the weakest. There were no punches pulled and no backing off. I remember one day in particular I was carried a half mile by eight Brookside Boys, over their heads, to the pharmacy, where I later discovered I had fractured my T3 vertebra - probably from them carrying me... not from the tackle itself! I didn’t realize how valuable this training was until around age 12, when they separated the boys from girls. I’d never played with girls so naturally I thought I was terrible. You can imagine the sheer joy

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Halifax, NS

- Represented Canada 10 times in international competition, including at the FIFA Women’s World Cup, 1995
- Played for every Nova Scotia provincial team before age 16
- Played for the Nova Scotia Canada Summer Games team, 1989
- Started playing for the Canadian National Senior Women’s Soccer team at 16 years old (the youngest player at the time, and first Atlantic Canadian player to ever be named to the team)

discovering I was no longer the weakest link.”

From here, Suzanne would not be held back, and she would achieve greatness in a variety of endeavors. It started with her selection to the Canadian Senior Women’s National Team on April 2nd, 1990, at the age of 16! Later that spring, at age 17, she was the youngest player on the field when she made her national team debut in Bulgaria.



Suzanne’s drive and motivation continued to pay dividends as she represented Canada on the World stage from 1990 to 1995, culminating in her proudest moment in soccer—playing for Canada at the 1995 World Cup in Sweden.

Suzanne recognizes that no person is an island, and that it takes a village. She has always credited her family, specifically her father Bill, mother Audrey, and brother

Steve, as her biggest sources of inspiration. Suzanne was/is a true team player and she is quick to give credit to the many individuals who have guided her on her journey. They include Steve Hart, who used weighted vests to help train Suzanne and NSSHF Hall of Famer Ante Jazic (this allowed each to compete at high levels

despite relatively small statures). She frequently travelled to New Brunswick to train with Dwight Hornibrook at the only high-performance centre in Atlantic Canada at that time. And she also worked closely with John Kehoe, coach of the silver medal 1993 Canada Games team.

Teammate Cindy Tye remembers Gerrior with great fondness:

“I think one of the things that made her great was her love for the game. But she was always someone that was one of the fittest on the team—that was definitely something that I remember about her. She was a very technical player, she had a great mind for the game, and she always pushed her teammates to be better.”

“Suzanne just wasn’t a special soccer player, I think it’s really who Suzanne is as a person,” recalls her former teammate Suzanne Muir. “The things that made her a great person also made her great on the field—that sense of teamwork, of working with others, a work ethic that was unparalleled, and a commitment to make us a better team.”

Suzanne Gerrior was a soccer pioneer in many ways, from being selected to represent Canada at a young age, to being one of the first Nova Scotia soccer athletes to receive a full scholarship to a Division 1 school in the United States (North Carolina State). During her time at NC State, she earned a bachelor’s degree, double majoring in Education and French. She later went on to earn a Master’s degree in Sports Management/Administration and is currently working toward earning her doctorate in Education.

Suzanne Gerrior has had massive success on the soccer field and in education and has won many awards, like the 1991 “Soccer NS Gunn Balderson Award” for outstanding female player. Despite this, she is most proud of her five children—Caleb, Noah, Isaiah, Samaiya and Joy. They inspire her to work hard and never stop believing in what can be accomplished. Suzanne continues to strive to be the best version of herself, and all these years later, she’s still beating the odds.



TO AN AMAZING COACH & FANTASTIC TEAMMATE

CONGRATULATIONS!


SUZANNE GERRIOR & JOHN KEHOE



Thanks for the memories.

♥ Carla Ellis, Dana Holmes, Stephanie Johnson, Suzanne Muir, Stephanie O'Connor, Kate Robinson, Heidi Stanish, Cindy Tye & Leahanne Turner

Dr. William Stanish and the staff of the Orthopaedic and Sport Medicine Clinic of Nova Scotia wish to congratulate all Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame 2023 inductees!




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CONGRATULATIONS

JOHN KEHOE AND SUZANNE GERRIOR





Congratulations
**Suzanne
Gerrior**

on your induction into
the Nova Scotia Sport
Hall of Fame.

From the Wolfpack

NC STATE



CONGRATULATIONS



Suzanne
GERRIOR

John
& KEHOE



NOVA SCOTIA SPORT HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2023

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SARA-LYNNNE KNOCKWOOD



Speaking of Sara-Lynne Knockwood, legendary Mi'kmaw sport builder Tex Marshall says, "She inspires people to aim for success, aim for excellence, and just aim to be better." Extraordinary words for an extraordinary athlete, whose relationship with the sport of Taekwondo began almost by accident.

The story begins with a Dad in the RCMP, who wanted to be sure his daughters knew how to defend themselves. The Knockwood sisters started first in boxing, but then decided they'd like to try kick-boxing. So, they went looking for a club in Dartmouth, and thought they had found one.

"Well, Sara-Lynne came in with her parents and two sisters," recalls coach David McKenna. "They were looking for some kickboxing, but the closest thing they could find to that was my sport, Taekwondo. Fortunately, it had a lot of kicking—fast, high, and spinning kicks—and they liked it!"

McKenna remembers an athlete who was totally



by Bruce Rainnie

dedicated from day one.

"She'd go above and beyond in training, very coachable that way," says McKenna. "She never complained, she never really got hurt in sparring in the gym, she was very careful. Her boxing training that she had done probably helped her in regard to defence. And she was relentless. You tell somebody that you want them to do 100 kicks before they take a break, and they might do 90. She'd do 110, and then ask if she should do more."

That desire to get better made Sara-Lynne a dream for a coach, but for an opponent... more of a nightmare.

Long-time friend Farida Gabbani remembers Sara-Lynne as a "fierce competitor, and a competitor who had done all the work that had needed to be done before she would go into that situation. And she would never give up, she would work as hard as she could and she was successful."

"Sara-Lynne has a great deal of mental toughness," adds Marshall. "She's very focused, very driven in what she

ATHLETE

Knockwood (right) with coach Dave McKenna



decides to do, and she sees things through to the end, so her succeeding at the highest level would be something that would be within her character."

It took very little time for Sara-Lynne Knockwood to reach that highest level.

At the first official tournament she ever competed in...she won gold.

In 2002, at her first North American Indigenous Games in Winnipeg, Manitoba, she won two gold medals representing Nova Scotia.

Also in 2002, at her first World Championship in Miami, Florida, Sara-Lynne proved best for her age on the planet... winning the U16 girl's world title for her weight class. It was a milestone moment for the young athlete from the Sipekne'katik First Nation.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Sipekne'katik First Nation, NS

- Open World Under-16 Lightweight Taekwondo Champion, 2002
- Pan American Championship gold medallist, 2002
- Three-time North American Indigenous Games gold medallist
- The first Indigenous woman to be inducted to the Mi'kmaq Sports Hall of Fame
- The first woman and athlete to be inducted to the North American Indigenous Games Hall of Honour

"After that gold medal match, I remember calling home on my dad's cell phone – you know, those old Nokias

– and telling my family that I had won," recalls Sara-Lynne. "I cried, not because of my own achievement, but because that win validated all of their hard work. That gold medal gave back to them, what they poured into me. I'll never forget that feeling."

"She means so much to her community," says Gabbani. "She has never swayed from her first joy, which is sharing what she has and what she can do and what she can teach people in the community. She is proof that you don't have to go anywhere else, and that the place you are is the place you should be."

Adds Marshall: "She's an absolute excellent role model for young Indigenous women and girls. She's an epitome of what you can accomplish





in life if you just focus and commit to something, and basically she's someone that we all look up to, not only young Indigenous Mi'kmaq women and girls, but men and boys too."

Knockwood adds that a big key is "not to be afraid to make mistakes. That's how you learn. It can be a scary thing to try something new. But if you don't try, you won't know. And if you don't get it the first time, that's ok. You're going to learn and get better. And don't be afraid to ask other people for help. Encourage youth to give back to the sport and to the community, because nobody gets somewhere on their own. And you never know where someone might go."

Knockwood speaks with the experience of someone who has reached the pinnacle of her sport. In 2016, she became the first female athlete to be inducted to the Mi'kmaq Sports Hall of Fame. In the summer of 2023, she became the first athlete ever to be named to the North American Indigenous Games Council Hall of Honour. And tonight, this young woman who means so much to so many, makes even more history, being inducted to the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.



According to Marshall, the timing couldn't be better...

"We're working toward more opportunities and equality for women and girls, especially within the Indigenous communities. I think that's probably the theme on the international and national front, and also within Indigenous communities and our Mi'kmaq communities. We need to promote our Indigenous women and girls through sport, it's time to celebrate them. And Sara-Lynne becoming a member of the Nova Sport Hall of Fame I think is very fitting at this point in our history."

*** Sara-Lynne Knockwood was the Director of Sport and Venue for NAIG 2023. In that role, she oversaw the delivery of all 16 sports and ensured that venues were properly prepared to host them.***

Sipekne'katik First Nation & Tidal Bore Rafting Resort

Proud Sponsors of Sara-Lynne Knockwood

2023 Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame Inductee

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND THANK YOU FOR ALL
YOU'VE DONE FOR INDIGENOUS
SPORT & ATHLETES ACROSS
NORTH AMERICA.




Congratulations Sara-Lynne Knockwood!



I'm delighted to extend my congratulations to Sara-Lynne Knockwood, an outstanding athlete from our community, on her upcoming induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame for her remarkable accomplishments in Taekwondo.

This level of passion and dedication make Sara-Lynne a true local hero and role model for aspiring athletes. The journey from the dojo to this prestigious hall of fame reflects a relentless pursuit of excellence and I'm certain her legacy will continue to inspire our community for generations to come.

- **John A. MacDonald**
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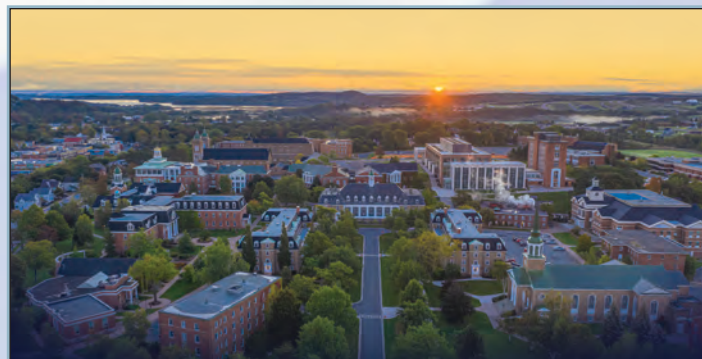


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On behalf of
StFX University and the
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Congratulations,
Sara-Lynne Knockwood.



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UNIVERSITY

Genevieve FRANCIS MEMORIAL FUND

The Genevieve Francis Memorial Fund would like to congratulate
advisory committee member and Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame inductee

Sara-Lynne Knockwood
Sipekne'katik First Nation



The **Genevieve Francis Memorial Fund**, established in 2022
through the Ulnooweg Indigenous Communities Foundation, aims
to provide support to sport, recreation, and physical activity
opportunities for Indigenous women & girls in Atlantic Canada.

Learn more about the Genevieve
Francis Memorial Fund at:
www.thegenevievefund.com



Congratulations, Sara-Lynne Knockwood!

We are grateful and honoured to recognize her as a leader in her sport, as an outstanding leader on our NAIG 2023 executive team, and as a role model for Indigenous youth everywhere.

**Wela'liek for all you have done, Sara-Lynne!
- NAIG 2023 Host Society & NAIG Council**



LOVE THE WAY YOU PLAY.

Office Interiors pays tribute to all
2023 Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame inductees:
Joe DiPenta, Joel Jacobson, Suzanne Gerrior,
the 1993 Acadia Axemen Hockey Team,
Sara-Lynne Knockwood, John Kehoe.

**AND A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO OUR
GOOD FRIEND BILL ROBINSON!**

Love the way you work.

ATLANTIC / ATLANTIQUE

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Congratulations to the 2023 Inductees
Félicitations aux intronisé.e.s 2023

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The following individuals and businesses have contributed financially to the Hall of Fame in support of our Annual Friends Campaign and our ongoing programs:

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HALL OF FAME SELECTION PROCESS

Helping to Select Nova Scotia Sport Heroes to the Hall

The selection process for the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame has proven to be very successful, creating transparency and expanded participation, while ensuring the best athletes, teams, and builders continue to gain the recognition they deserve. A 24-person review panel from across the province, all sport-knowledgeable people, review the nominations—usually between 80 and 100 submissions annually.

Using a weighted point system, each of the 24 ranks his or her top ten in the athlete/team category and top five in the builder category.

Two short lists—top point getters in athlete/team and builder categories, in alphabetical order—are then presented to a final 12-member selection committee, consisting of regional representatives with sport background expertise.

That committee meets in person to review the final list of nominees, with open and detailed discussion taking place on each nominee.

A transparent first-ballot vote narrows the list, with the top four vote getters in the athlete-team category receiving automatic election. Those others receiving at least 50 per cent of the first-ballot vote are then placed on a second ballot, and require at least 75 per cent of the vote to attain election. A maximum of five new members in the category can be elected each year.

The process is similar for builders, with two to be elected each year.

Chair of the Hall of Fame selection process is Hall of Famer Mark Smith, elected as an athlete in 2002.

Since implementing the new process in 2009, we have seen its success in the years following.

Nominations are accepted from the public with a deadline of January 31st each year. The selection process moves through committees from March through May.

SELECTION COMMITTEE PERSONNEL

2023 SELECTION REVIEW PANEL

Michelle Aucoin
Ray Bradshaw
Lowell Cormier
Janice Cossar
Glenn Delaney
Ken Douglas
Bette El-Hawary
Brian Finniss
Karen Furneaux
Farida Gabbani
Sarah Gloade
Matt Haliburton

Alex Joseph
Nigel Kemp
Steve Locke
Scott Logan
Melissa MacKinnon
Janessa MacPherson
Cathy Mason
David Ogbuah
John Randles
Stephanie Spencer
Ambrose White
Cecil Wright

2023 SELECTION COMMITTEE

Chairman Mark Smith
Janice Cogle
Mike Henderson
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- Deceased

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ATHLETE

Alfred “Ackie” Allbon •
Hector “Hec” Andrews •
Sam R. Balcom •
Marty Barry •
Wally Barteaux •
Fabie Bates •
D. Stanley Bauld •
Joey Beaton •
Richard Beazley •
Fred “Stonewall” Bishop •
Vaughan Black •
Neddy Borne •
Arthur J. Brady •
Henry “Ducky” Brooks •
Frank Brown •
George Brown •
Freddie Cameron •
“Hockey Jack” Campbell •
Mike Carney •
Frank Carroll •
Carroll Charleton •
D.R. “Dempsey” Chisholm •
Roy Chisholm •
Frank Condon •
Jack Condon •
Johnny Conroy •
Thurston Cook •
Joe Crockett •
George Cutten •
Art Dalton •
Robie Davison •
Clarence DeMont •
George Dixon •
W.R. “Tee” Doyle •
Burns Dunbar •
Bill Dunphy •
Vern Eville •
Layton Ferguson •
Robert “Burglar” Ferguson •
Vincent Ferguson •
Leon Fluck •
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Tom Foley •
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John MacIntyre •
“Mickey” MacIntyre •
Hughie MacKinnon •
Clarence “Coot” MacLean •
Kirk MacLellan •
Silas MacLellan •

- Wilbert Martel •
Jimmy Martin •
Stephen “Duke” McIsaac •
Bill McKay •
Jack McKenna •
Sandy McMullin •
Aileen Meagher •
Bert “Basket” Messervy •
Johnny Miles •
Leigh Miller •
Billy Mooney •
Frank Morrison •
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Tom Mullane •
Jack Munroe •
Mike Murphy •
A.V. “Chummie” Murray •
Frank Nicks •
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Gerald “Jigger” O’Neil •
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Billy Pickering •
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“Nugget” Richmond •
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Jimmy Trott •
Jack Twaddle •
Angus Walters •
Terrence “Tiger” Warrington •
Russell T. Ward •
George Weatherbee •
Neddie Weaver •
Steven Whelan •
- Neil Wilkie •
James “Minute” Wilkie •
Benny Woodworth •
- TEAM**
- Jubilee Four Oared Crew of 1930
Ross Foley Four Oared Crew
St. Mary’s Four Oared Crew of 1909
Smith-Nickerson Four Oared Crew
- 1980**
- ATHLETE**
- David Amadio •
Paul Andrea
Don Bauld •
Len Boss •
Joe “Beef” Cameron •
Dr. W.A. “Buddy” Condy •
John Devison
Foster “Moxie” Dickson •
P. “Skit” Ferguson
Fred Fox •
Lawson Fowler •
Tyrone Gardiner
Doug Grant
Art Hafey
John “Junior” Hanna •
Jimmy Hawboldt •
Robert Hayes •
J. “Bert” Hirschfeld •
Dorothy Holmes •
Vida Large •
Parker MacDonald
Steve “Kid” MacDonald •
Allister MacNeil
Avard Mann •
S. “Chook” Maxwell •
Joseph “Joey” Mullins •
Roy Oliver •
Bevil “Bev” Piers •
Blair Richardson •
Richie Spears
Sherman White •
R. “Tic” Williams •
Frances L. Woodbury •
- BUILDER**
- Bob Beaton •
A. Garnet Brown •
Ted Cumming
John Cechetto
Hanson Dowell •
Danny Gallivan •
Eddie Gillis •
Jack Gray •
Don Henderson •
Clarence Johnson •
Fred Kelly •
Art Lightfoot •

- Frank McGibbon •
Leo “Pop” McKenna •
John MacCarthy •
Charles MacVicar •
Hugh Noble •
Victor deB. Oland •
John Piers •
Dannie Seaman •
H.L. “Bud” Thorbourne •
Harry Trainor •
Abbie Warden •
George Warden •
- TEAM**
- Acadia University “Axemen” Basketball 1971
Caledonia Rugby 1937
Halifax “Atlantics” Hockey 1952-53-54
Halifax Queen Elizabeth “Lions” Basketball 1950
Halifax “Wolverines” Hockey 1934-35
Kentville “Glooscap” Curling 1951 •
Kentville Wildcats Hockey 1926-27
New Glasgow High School Track and Field 1937
New Waterford Central High School Basketball 1961
New Waterford “Strands” Basketball 1946-47-48
St. Agnes Juvenile Basketball - New Waterford 1932
Stellarton “Albions” Baseball 1951-52-53
Sydney Millionaires Hockey 1941
Truro “Bearcats” Senior Baseball 1946
Truro Bearcats “Seven Survivors” Hockey 1930-31
Truro “Slugs” Girls Softball 1945-46-50
- 1981**
- ATHLETE**
- Edith Bauld •
John Alexander “Johnny” Clark •
Delmore William “Buddy” Daye •
James Goode “Jimmy” Gray •
John Edward McCurdy •
Jesse Elroy Mitchell •

- 1983**
- ATHLETE**
- Clyde Gray
George “Rock-A-Bye” Ross •
- BUILDER**
- Frank Baldwin •
- TEAM**
- World Championship Sailing– Glen Dexter, Andreas Josenhans, Alexander “Sandy” MacMillan 1977, 1980
- MEDIA**
- Alex Nickerson •
- 1984**
- ATHLETE**
- Marjorie Turner-Bailey
Lyle Carter
Gerald Mielke •
Wayne Smith •
- BUILDER**
- John “Brother” MacDonald •
Jimmy McDonald •
- MEDIA AWARD**
- Earl R.J. Morton •
- 1985**
- ATHLETE**
- Susan Mason (MacLeod)
Thomas Melvin “Ike” Murray •
Beverley “Bev” Wade •
- BUILDER**
- Frederick Robert “Fred” Lynch •
Les Topshee •
- MEDIA**
- Dr. Cecil MacLean •
- 1986**
- ATHLETE**
- Sylvester “Daddy” Bubar •
Nancy Ellen Garapick
Gerald “Gerry” Leslie Glinz •
Marty Martinello •
- BUILDER**
- Steve MacDonald •
Gordon S. Mont
- TEAM**
- Saint Mary’s University Football 1973
- W.J. “Ace” Foley •

- 1987**
- ATHLETE**
- John “Jack” Fritz •
Phil Scott
Francis “Rocky” MacDougall •
- BUILDER**
- Janet Merry •
Owen N. Sawler •
- TEAM**
- Shearwater Flyers Football 1957
- 1988**
- ATHLETE**
- Douglas “Dugger” McNeil •
David Piers
Earl Arthur Ryan •
Garfield MacDonald •
- BUILDER**
- George “Porgy” Kehoe •
Annie Longard •
Gladys Longard •
- TEAM**
- Brookfield Elks Softball 1980
- 1989**
- ATHLETE**
- Hugh Alexander
Campbell
Herbert MacLeod •
Sydney Hale Roy •
Reginald J. Muise •
- BUILDER**
- John Brophy •
Nigel Kemp
Donald Wheeler •
- TEAM**
- Stellarton Monarchs Senior Softball 1937-38
- 1990**
- ATHLETE**
- Reginald “Reg” Beazley •
Peter Hope
Sam Wareham •
Jerry Byers •
- BUILDER**
- Robert “Bob” Kaplan •
Herman Kaplan •
Alfred “Alf” LeJeune •
- TEAM**
- Windsor Maple Leafs Senior Hockey 1963-64
- Josephine Laba •
Paul MacLean
Marie Moore
Ralph Simmons •

- BUILDER**
- Gussie MacLellan •
Ken Mantin
- TEAM**
- Nova Scotia Women’s Field Hockey 1975
- 1996**
- ATHLETE**
- David Crabbe
Edna Lockhart
Duncanson •
Duncan MacIntyre •
Marie McNeil Bowness
Karen Fraser Moore
- BUILDER**
- Taylor Gordon •
Fred MacGillivray, Sr. •
Joyce Myers •
- 1997**
- ATHLETE**
- Jamie Bone
Rick Bowness
Edwin Crowell •
John “Jook” Munroe •
Bob Piers
- BUILDER**
- George Athanasiou
Dr. William Stanish
Dorothy Walker •
- TEAM**
- Nova Scotia Voyageurs Hockey 1971-72
- 1998**
- ATHLETE**
- William “Bill” Carter •
Wilson Parsons
William “Bill” Riley
Ken Shea •
- BUILDER**
- Elizabeth Chard •
Lois MacGregor
Bob Wong
- TEAM**
- Saint Mary’s University Basketball 1972-73
- 1999**
- ATHLETE**
- Dave Downey
Duncan Gillis •
Mike Henderson
Mike McPhee
- BUILDER**
- Bob Boucher •
Pat Connolly •
John MacGlashen •

TEAM

Halifax Arcade Ladies
Softball 1946-49

2000
ATHLETE

Donald “Chick” Charlton •
William Hannon •
Kevin Morrison
Lawrence “Butch” O’Hearn

BUILDER

Kell Antoft •
Brian Langley
Al Yarr

TEAM

Sydney Millionaires
Hockey 1948-49

2001
ATHLETE

Cecilia Branch
Donald MacVicar
Kathy MacCormack
Spurr

BUILDER

Laurie Power •
Ginny Smith

TEAM

Thorburn Mohawks
Maritime Junior
Softball 1963-65
1981 Canada Games
Junior Boys Softball

2002
ATHLETE

Fabian Joseph
Cliff Roach •
Mark Smith

BUILDER

Terry Henderson
Alexander “Sandy” Young •

TEAM

Dalhousie University
Volleyball 1982
Saint Mary’s Jr. Hockey
1948

2003
ATHLETE

Ricky Anderson
Jim Beckman
Malcolm Davis
Graham MacIntyre
Clyde Roy •
Barry Shakespeare •

BUILDER

Jerome Bruhm
Leo Fahey •

TEAM

Saint Francis Xavier
Football 1963

MEDIA

Hugh Townsend

2004
ATHLETE

Art Dorrington •
Hugh Little •
Gerry MacMillan
Kathy Powers
Tyrone Williams

BUILDER

Bernie Chisholm
Hugh Matheson
Gail Rice
William James Roue •

TEAM

Glace Bay Colonels 1987

MEDIA

Donnie MacIsaac •

2005
ATHLETE

Neil Amadio •
John Cassidy
Jackie Hayden •
David “Ducky” Webber

BUILDER

John Paris Jr.
Susan Smith
Murray Sleep •

TEAM

Antigonish Robertson’s
Midget Softball 1984
Nova Scotia Canada
Games Men’s Basketball
1987

MEDIA

Al Hollingsworth •

2006
ATHLETE

Terry Baker
Chris Clarke
John Giovannetti •
David Pinkney Sr. •
Ken Reardon

BUILDER

David Andrews
Muriel Fage •
Courtney Malcolm

TEAM

Judy Lugar and Morag
McLean Sailing
Fisherman’s Market
Midget Boys Fast Pitch
Softball 1981

2007
ATHLETE

Frank Dorrington •
Stan Hennigar Jr.
Fred Lake •
Penny LaRocque
Charles Smith •
Wendell Young

BUILDER

Steve Konchalski
Don Koharski
Dick MacLean •

2008
ATHLETE

Don Brien
Peter Corkum •
Al MacInnis
Carroll Morgan •

BUILDER

Wayne Finck •
David Fraser
Arnold Patterson •

TEAM

Amherst Ramblers
Hockey 1960-61

2009
ATHLETE

Bruce Beaton
Mickey Fox
Brian Heaney
Jody Hennigar
Gordie Smith

BUILDER

Roy Clements •
Gus Fahey

TEAM

Acadia University Men’s
Basketball 1976-77

2010
ATHLETE

Janice Cossar
Mike Forgeron
Robyn Meagher
Gary Sabean
Cindy Tye
Ross Webb

BUILDER

Carl “Bucky” Buchanan
Kevin Heisler
Rick Rivers

2011
ATHLETE

Will Njoku
Steve Pound
Cam Russell
Michael Scarola

BUILDER

Hubert Earle
Carolyn Savoy •

TEAM

Team Colleen Jones
1999-2004

2012
ATHLETE

Julie Barton
Steve Giles
Vince Horsman
Glen Murray

BUILDER

John (Jack) Graham
Howard Jackson •

TEAM

2001 King of Donair Men’s
Soccer Club

2013
ATHLETE

Lawrence Hafey
John Hatch

BUILDER

Stephen Fairbairn
Tak Kikuchi

TEAM

1981 Acadia University
Axemen Football
1985 Kentville Wildcats
Baseball

2014
ATHLETE

Kevin Dugas
Scott Fraser •
Theresa MacCuish
Richard G. Munro
Ken Poole

BUILDER

Dr. Cathy Campbell
Anthony Hall

TEAM

1998 Truro TSN Bearcats
Hockey Club

2015
ATHLETE

Raymond “Sugar Ray”
Downey
Chris Flynn

Andrew Haley
David Kikuchi

BUILDER

Jim Bottomley
Lowell Cormier

TEAM

1995 Dalhousie
University Men’s Soccer
Team

2016
ATHLETE

Tracy Cameron
Leon Carter
Karen Furneaux
Simon P. Gillis •

Ante Jazic

BUILDER

David Fry •
Fred MacGillivray

2017
ATHLETE

Sarah Baker
Amy Cotton
Todd King
Lucy Smith

Colin White

BUILDER

Brad Barton

Mike Kelly •

TEAM

1977 Cheema Canoe
Team

2018
ATHLETE

Mary Beth Bowie
Kristan Burley
Anna Pendergast
Stammberger
Somebeachsomewhere •

BUILDER

Thomas Doucette •

Margaret “Peggy” Gallant

TEAM

1978 SMU Men’s
Basketball Team

2019
ATHLETE

Jackie Barrett
Justine Colley-Leger
Suzanne Muir
Jody Shelley
Morgan Williams

BUILDER

Henry Boutilier •

Roger Caulfield

2021
ATHLETE

Richard Dalton
Todd Hallett
Robert Putnam
Ted Upshaw

BUILDER

Cathy Mason
Brian Todd

TEAM

Team Dacey 2004 Brier
Curling Champion

2022
ATHLETE

Sarah Conrad
Jon Sim
Paul Tingley

BUILDER

Tom Coolen
Laszlo “Csom”
Latorovszki

TEAM

1994 Dalhousie Women’s
Soccer Team

2023
ATHLETE

Joe DiPenta
Suzanne Gerrior
Sara-Lynne Knockwood
Bill Robinson

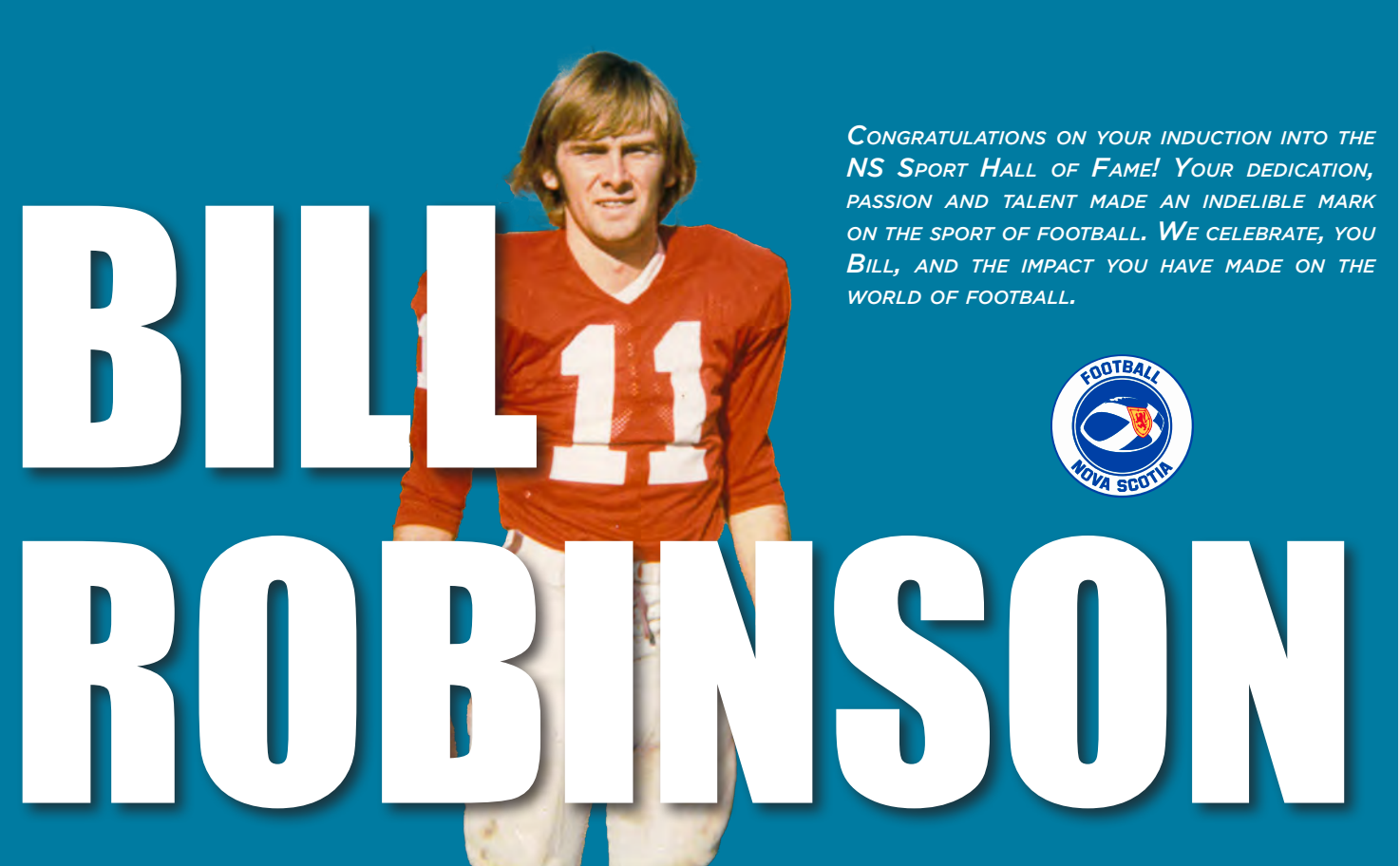
BUILDER

Joel Jacobson •
John Kehoe

TEAM

1993 Acadia Axemen
Hockey Team

The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame launched a free mobile app as part of an initiative to have a greater presence across the province. Powered by ThinkProxi, the app allows users to access up-to-date information, unlock exclusive content when visiting exhibits & special installations (see nsshf.com for a current list), and test their skills with trivia & games. Download it now by using your smartphone camera to scan the code below.



BILL ROBINSON



Teammates, coaches, commentators, and Canadian football enthusiasts will all tell you the same thing—even after watching more than half a century of the game, one name stands out as the greatest pure passer, most dedicated worker, and the ultimate university quarterback—that name is Bill Robinson.

After winning the Toronto City Championship and being named a City All-Star while playing high school football, Robinson took the offer to come to Saint Mary's University (SMU) because Coach Al Keith's offensive philosophy gave him the

by Katie Tanner

opportunity to show his skill at throwing the ball during a time when most teams were devoted to the running game.

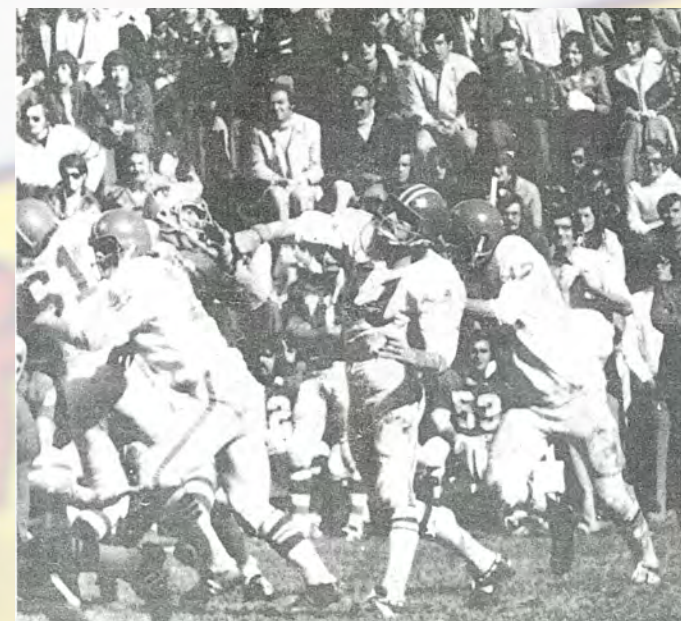
Teammate and wide receiver Bruce Hopkins likens catching a ball thrown by Robinson to "catching a pillow."

"His arm was tremendous, both in velocity and accuracy. You turn around—the ball's there, all the time."

Hopkins also recalls Robinson's commitment to additional practice. "We [Robinson and the receivers] went out and we just ran patterns, worked on his timing and our timing. He knew exactly when everybody was going to break on a five-yard out."

"The other players on the team started seeing us do this. All of a sudden the defensive backs started showing up, [and] the linebackers, so we were actually doing seven-on-seven drills," says Hopkins. "That made him a lot better and made everybody else a lot better as well."

Defensive coach Doug Wright also remembers how Robinson pushed the rest of the team: "If one of these guys didn't show up for the early practice, which was a tradition, he'd hear from Bill."



The team was inspired by Robinson's work ethic and determination to win. He practiced hard, was extremely competitive, and carried himself with a winning attitude.

Robinson, in turn, was inspired by SMU's great athletic program that he feels drove all of the university's sports teams. "Everybody wanted to win," he says.

Broadcaster Steve Armitage also recalls Robinson's desire to win: "That's all Billy wanted to do, was win, and when they lost those first two attempts to get to the Vanier Cup, Billy was determined in '73, they were going to go to the Vanier Cup, and they were going to win it."

"He instilled a lot of confidence in the players," says Hopkins.

SMU was playing more experienced teams because of the four-year rule for the Atlantic University Football Conference (AUFC), while the rest of the country allowed players to remain in their conferences

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Birthplace: Toronto, ON

Hometown: Halifax, NS

- Two-time Vanier Cup winner, 1973 (SMU) and 1974 (Western)
- Quarterback for SMU Huskies for four seasons, named League All-Star every season, and led the conference in every major passing category
- Three-time League MVP, 1971-73
- Grey Cup winner, 1976

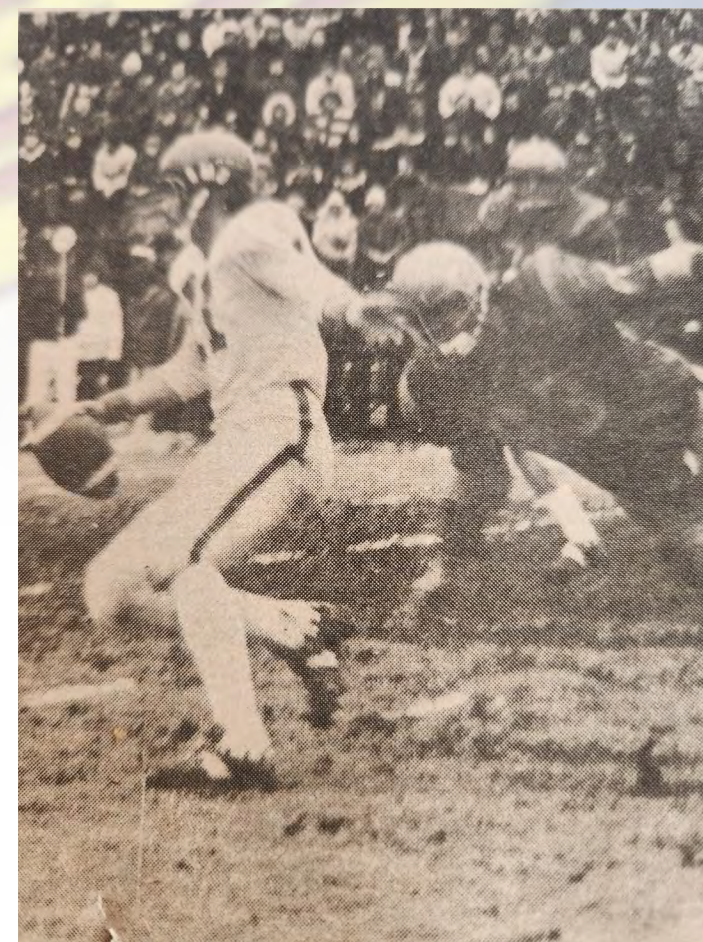
for five years. Despite that, both Robinson and the team had their best year yet in the 1972-73 season. The Huskies finished first in the conference, including a 21-7 victory over UPEI in the AUFC Championship game, in which Robinson rushed for three touchdowns.

Going into the 1973 Atlantic Bowl, the Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks were heavily favoured to win. The

Huskies authored one of the biggest upsets in Canadian Football history when they defeated Laurier 19-17, with Robinson throwing key late passes to his tight end, Steve Telfer, before finding all-star wide receiver Ken Clark for the winning touchdown in the final two minutes.

Heavy rains at the 1973 Vanier Cup prevented Robinson from showcasing his arm, as the only two game balls soon became fully waterlogged, but it was Robinson's unwavering dedication to perfection in the pivotal quarterback role that had led the team to that point. And with the same hunger to win they had carried all season, the team brought home Saint Mary's and Atlantic Canada's first

national university championship, defeating the McGill Redmen 14-6.



ATHLETE



Robinson credits the Huskies' "tremendous team unity" for their Vanier Cup win. "We had paid our dues," he says.

Robinson and the Huskies lost only two league games in his four years as starting quarterback, and he consistently led the Atlantic Conference in all passing categories. He notably achieved his individual records in a six-game season, as opposed to today's eight-game regular season schedule. His CIAU national touchdown record stood until broken by fellow Hall of Famer Chris Flynn. He was a three-time AUFC MVP (1971, '72, and '73), an AUFC All-Star for four consecutive years, and the 1970 Rookie of the Year. He was inducted into the SMU Athletics Hall of Fame in 2004.

"Bill, in my opinion, was the best quarterback to ever play college football in Canada," says Wright.

Playing for Western University in his final year of eligibility, Robinson led his team to a 10-1 season and a 1974 Vanier Cup victory against Toronto. He was named Team MVP and All Canadian Quarterback in the process.

"I think Billy Robinson helped to put Canadian College football on the map," says Armitage.

Robinson then took his considerable knowledge of the game to the Canadian Football League, at a time when American imports made Canadian quarterbacks a rarity in the CFL. He played with the Ottawa Rough Riders from 1975 to 1978, winning a Grey Cup with the team in 1976. His Grey Cup win cemented his reputation as a winner, giving him championships at every level—high school, university and pro.

After retiring as an athlete, he continued his love for sport in a variety of capacities, serving as assistant football coach and offensive coordinator for the Huskies from 1985 to 1994, and chairing the AUS Women's Basketball Championships, the Atlantic Bowl, and the CIS Final 8 Basketball Championship. He cemented his sport legacy as an adopted Nova Scotian by becoming the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame's first paid employee and CEO, holding the position for 34 years.



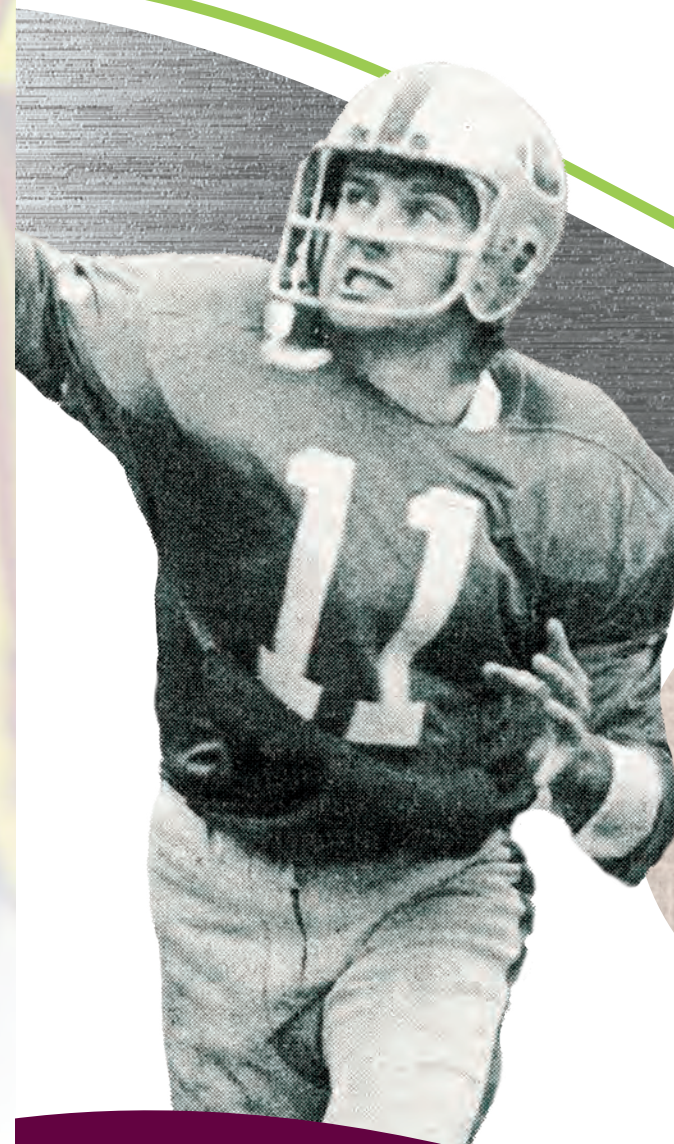
Photos: Saint Mary's University

1973 proved to be a winning year for Robinson off the field as well, as he also married his wife and greatest supporter, Barbara-Jo. Their two kids, Billy and Kristi-Jo, both attended SMU and achieved AUS All-Star status—Kristi-Jo as the captain of the women's basketball team and Billy as the quarterback of two Vanier Cup-winning teams, continuing the great Robinson athletic tradition.

Congratulations

on your induction into the NS Sport Hall of Fame

Bill Robinson BComm'75, Alumnus
and Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame inductee



John Kehoe,
former coach of
the SMU Huskies
women's soccer



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Congratulations Bill Robinson
On your induction to the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame
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Congratulations

**Bill
Robinson**

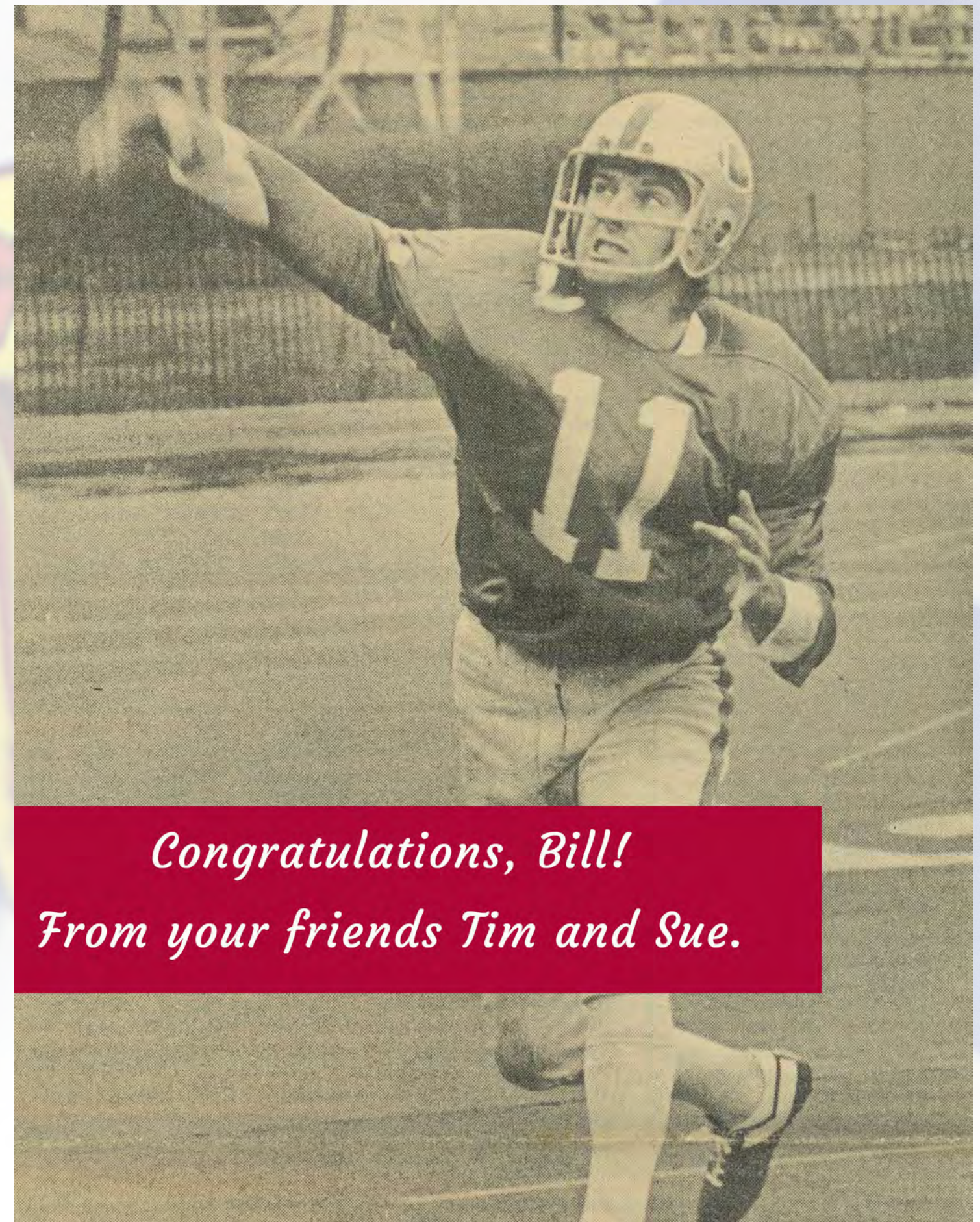
on your 2023
induction to the
Nova Scotia
Sport Hall of
Fame!

From
Mike & Beth Brien



*Congratulations, Bill,
on your well-deserved induction!
Your hard work will be remembered
both on and off the field.*

— Your former Hall of Fame staff

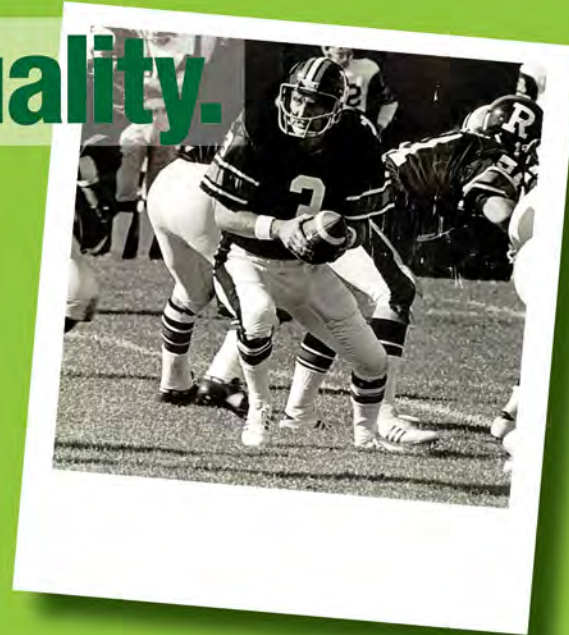


*Congratulations, Bill!
From your friends Tim and Sue.*

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Congratulations, Bill!

From your 1973 Huskies teammates!



Congratulations to a close friend of the Atlantic Rogers family for his accomplishments on and off the field!

Congratulations to Bill Robinson on a well-deserved induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame! Your dedication and passion for sport have not only left a lasting impact on the community, but have also inspired us all. We are proud to have had you as part of our team at the Canadian Football Hall of Fame. Enjoy this moment—it's an honour well earned!



Photo courtesy of Saint Mary's University



Thomas Bagogloo & The Bagogloo Team would like to congratulate Bill Robinson & all 2023 inductees into The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.



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Congratulations Bill Robinson.



Private Wealth

Congratulating **Bill Robinson** on being inducted into the **Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame**.

Bill Played for SMU for four seasons (1970-1973) and, as quarterback of the Saint Mary's Huskies, led his team to the 1973 Vanier Cup, the first in the school's history. He was League All-Star for all four seasons, and led the conference in every major passing category. Bill was also Member of the Ottawa Roughriders 1976 Grey Cup champion team.

Congrats to Bill & all the Inductees.

BMO Private Wealth is a brand name for a business group consisting of Bank of Montreal and certain of its affiliates in providing private wealth management products and services. Not all products and services are offered by all legal entities within BMO Private Wealth. Banking services are offered through Bank of Montreal. Investment management, wealth planning, tax planning, and philanthropy planning services are offered through BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc. and BMO Private Investment Counsel Inc. Estate, trust, and custodial services are offered through BMO Trust Company. BMO Private Wealth legal entities do not offer tax advice. BMO Trust Company and BMO Bank of Montreal are Members of CDIC. Registered trademark of Bank of Montreal, used under license.



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Celebrating your well-deserved induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame

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BILL
on your induction
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1993 ACADIA AXEMEN HOCKEY TEAM

by Jim Prime

On March 21, 1993, the Acadia Axemen captured their first CIAU (now CIS) hockey championship with a stunning 12-1 victory over the University of Toronto Blues. Based on size it might have appeared to be an upset as the Ontario school boasted an enrollment of 36,500 and the Acadia campus a mere 3,400. In actual fact, the number one ranked Axemen could easily have won by a much greater margin.

The historic win came in what many Canadians consider the shrine of hockey, Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens. A record 7,842 fans showed up for the showdown, including enough Axemen supporters to make the storied rink sound like Acadia Arena.

The outcome was never in doubt as Acadia dominated from the opening face-off and led 2-0 before two minutes had elapsed. As was their practice all season long, the Axemen came out hitting in an attempt to soften up the Blues and by the end of the first stanza the Torontonians were as soft as triple ply Cottonelle.



Photo: Acadia University



Fittingly, All-Canadian centre George Dupont began the onslaught, cashing in on a two man break with Paul Sutcliffe at the 1:13 mark. Forty-three seconds later, Dartmouth's Sean Rowe scored and the rout was on. The Axemen led 4-0 after the first twenty minutes and 9-0 at the end of second period.

Despite the lop-sided score, there was no lack of drama in this national final. High scoring right winger Duane Dennis, injured in the AUSA final vs UNB, left his Halifax hospital bed and flew to Toronto to contribute to the Axemen victory. The stylish speedster unleashed two point blank shots at the Blues' net, one of which temporarily disabled the U of T goalie, and his very presence on the ice inspired his teammates.

Joining Dupont in the scoring parade were Rowe with a hat trick, Scott Farrell with a pair, Darren Burns, Kevin Knopp, Colin Gregor, Paul Sutcliffe, Malcolm Cameron, and Norm Batherson. Meanwhile Acadia's defensive corps was airtight. Defenseman Jeff MacLeod was a one-man wrecking crew, dishing out the kind of bone-crunching, teeth-rattling body checks that made instant Acadia fans out of Toronto chiropractors and orthodontists, not to mention sports psychologists.

The Axemen outshot the Blues 50-24 and Denis Sproxtton was perfect in nets until replaced by Arnie Caplan midway through the final stanza. Caplan added several fine saves in closing out the game for the garnet and blue.

It was the first national title in the 44-year history of Acadia hockey and the first time a Nova Scotia university had ever won Canada's top intercollegiate prize.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- First Nova Scotian university team to ever win the CIAU University Cup National Hockey Championship
- Defeated University of Toronto 12-1 for CIAU Championship
- Players received 10 awards of MVP or All-Star at either the conference or national level
- CIAU Coach of the Year – Tom Coolen
- CIAU All-Canadian – George Dupont

Team Members: Norm Batherson, Darren Burns, Malcolm Cameron, Arnie Caplan, Ken Cullihall, Duane Dennis, Milan Dragicevic, George Dupont, Scott Farrell, Craig Fraser, Scott Gallant, Colin Gregor, Derek Kletzel, Kevin Knopp, Jeff MacLeod, Morgan Mann, Mark McFarlane, Sean O'Reilly, Mark Pound, Brent Presswood, Sean Rowe, Rob Ryan, Denis Sproxtton, Paul Sutcliffe, Tom Coolen (Head Coach), Mike Alcoe and Mark Hanneman (Assistant Coaches), Michael Smith (Manager), Jan Hooper (Therapist), and Dave Beach, Chris "Rocky" Randall, and Pete Sheehan (Equipment Managers).

Acadia's regular season was equally dominant as Coach and master recruiter Tom Coolen led his charges to a 22-2-2 record. Dupont won the scoring title with 57 points and Derek Kletzel was named the league's top rookie. Dupont, Denis Sproxtton, Kevin Knopp and Batherson were named to the All Star team.

Following a first game playoff loss to the University of Cape Breton, the Axemen swept to consecutive series victories over the Capers and Dalhousie until finally only UNB stood in their way.

Acadia won the first contest in the best-of-three series and excitement was at a fever pitch for game two in Wolfville. Despite the worst snow storm of the season, Nova Scotia's premier and 2,099 other rabid fans wedged themselves into Acadia Arena to watch the Axemen punch their ticket to Toronto. The hometown team didn't disappoint, dominating the McAdam Division champion Red Devils 6-0. Highlights of the game included a hellacious open ice body check on UNB's Dan Sherstenka by Craig Fraser, Acadia's version of the Tazmanian Devil. It was a resounding hit that produced audible gasps from the stands.



As the triumphant Axemen paraded the Halifax Herald Trophy around the ice it was apparent to all that this was a team of destiny.

The first national test came against the University of Alberta Golden Bears at Varsity Arena in Toronto. The previous year, the short-staffed Atlantic champs had been eliminated by the Albertans as three key Acadia players were suspended. Driven by thoughts of retribution, the avenging Axemen's top guns were literally loaded for Bears. The final period was proof that the hockey gods are just. Typifying CIAU coach-of-the-year Coolen's textbook transition strategy, Sean O'Reilly stole the puck and fed a streaking McFarlane down the right

wing. One of the suspended three, McFarlane put a year's worth of frustrations into a lethal slap shot that bulged the twine behind the Bears' cage. McFarlane then drew a penalty and Acadia's second suspended player, Sean Rowe, took over, committing grand larceny on a young Alberta defenseman to score a short-handed beauty. The final act of sweet revenge came a minute later as the third member of the exclusive three scored on a breakaway with a dipsy-doodle finish to send the Bears into early hibernation. Paul Sutcliffe was named player-of-the-game. The 9-4 win over the defending champs was seen by many experts as the true championship game but the Blues still had to be beaten.

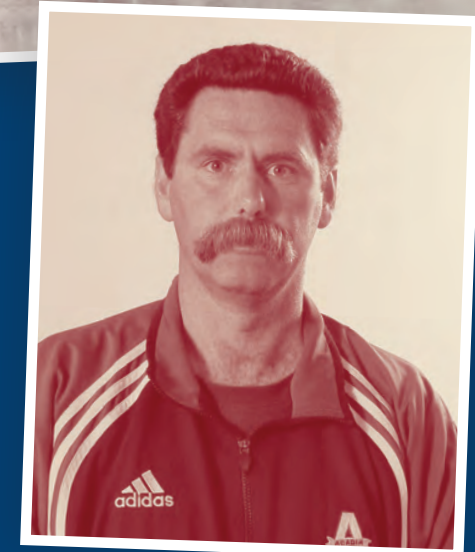
Toronto coach Paul Titanic's Blues knew they were on a collision course with the Axemen iceberg but there was no avoiding the inevitable. In truth, they were sunk before they hit the ice. Dupont led the charge, earning player of the game and MVP honours. He joined teammates Denis Sproston, Jeff MacLeod, Kevin Knopp and Sean Rowe on the tournament all-star team.

As if further proof was needed of the greatness of this Acadia team, on October 29 of 1993 the CIAU champs (22-2-2) met the NCAA champion University of Maine Black Bears (42-1-2) in an exhibition tilt. The final score was 4-4 after OT.



Photos: Acadia University

Jim Prime is the former editor of the Acadia Alumni Bulletin and The AxeNews, a publication for Acadia's Department of Athletics.



The Acadia Alumni Association and Acadia Athletics congratulate the **1992-1993 Axemen Hockey Team** and former soccer head coach **John Kehoe** on their induction into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.



acadiau.ca





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SAINT MARY'S BILL ROBINSON,
THE 1993 ACADIA AXEMEN HOCKEY TEAM
AND LONG-TIME CIAU FINAL 8 VOLUNTEER JOEL JACOBSON.

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AXEMEN

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JOEL JACOBSON

by Monty Mosher

Joel Jacobson didn't generally run sports events, he simply made them better. And no one did it as well and for as long.

Maybe nothing says more about that than the last months of his life. Jacobson died in the summer of 2022 at the age of 81, not long after staffing the media room at the U Sports men's hockey championship in Wolfville.

He is part of the 2023 class for the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame in the builder category. It is fitting since his volunteer work with the Hall of Fame, often doing exactly this sort of thing, made the Hall of Fame a better and more viable institution.

Bill Robinson, the CEO of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame for 34 years, described Jacobson as the "ultimate volunteer" who was instrumental in establishing the Hall "as one of the most successful organizations in Canada."

He said Jacobson spent more than 40 years co-ordinating and producing the Hall of Fame induction ceremony and brought "professionalism, humour, and most of all, passion to the night," making sure the "light shone brightly on the inductees."

BUILDER

Photo: The Chronicle Herald



Joel Jacobson

That was only part of it. He was a major contributor to other Hall of Fame events, most notably as the chief media liaison for countless university men's basketball tournaments in Halifax. He was involved with the AUS men's basketball tournaments and the occasional NCAA basketball event. He was a member of the Hall of Fame selection committee for a decade.

"It is very rare to have someone spend 40 years as a significant contributor in so many ways," Robinson said, noting Jacobson embodied excellence and was "a true builder of sport in Nova Scotia." Robinson, a former varsity and pro quarterback, enters the Hall of Fame this year in the athlete category.

Carl (Bucky) Buchanan, a longtime athletic director at Cape Breton University and a member of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, said Jacobson's volunteerism created a historic legacy.

He said Jacobson was "well-known for his media contributions, which have resulted in exceptional

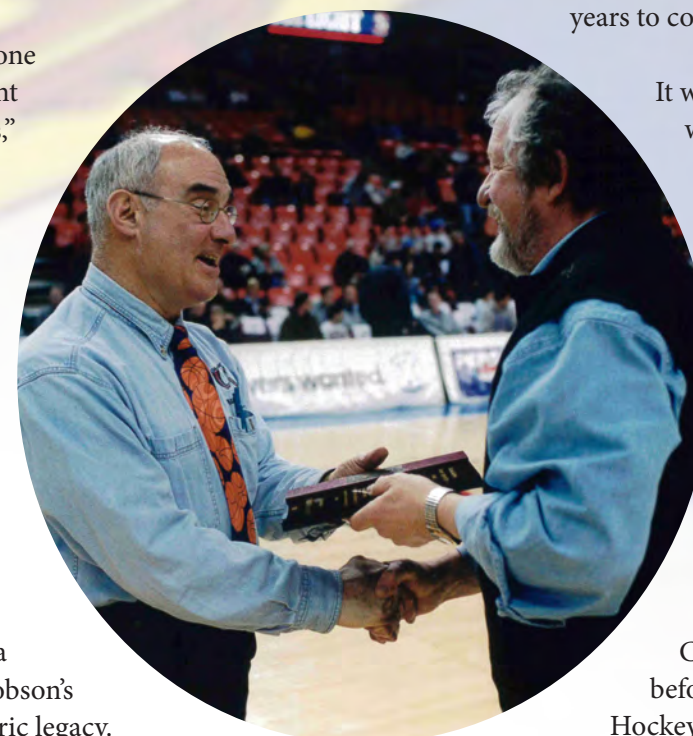
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Halifax, NS

- Volunteer, promoter, writer, producer, and emcee
- Produced the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame Induction Night for more than 40 years
- Chief Media Liaison for the CIAU Final 8 Basketball Championship for decades
- Primary leader for the Canadian Progress Club
- Host of the annual Bill Stanish and Friends Special Olympics NS Luncheon
- Volunteer of the Year (1990 and 2004, NSSHF; 1991, NS Special Olympics; 2001, CIAU Basketball Championship)

record-keeping with amazing detail and accuracy."

Buchanan said Jacobson "provided us with a history of sport in this province and this country that will provide a permanent record of sporting activities for years to come."



It was always Jacobson's wry sense of humour, indefatigable spirit and boundless child-like energy that strengthened everything he touched. All of that was true even during a bout with cancer more than 20 years ago.

Many will recognize his name from his years of writing the Bright Spot column in the Halifax Chronicle Herald. But long before that, he was the American Hockey League's print journalist of the year.

He held executive roles in more than a dozen organizations, and they were hardly limited to sport. Some notables include the Kingsmeadow Sports Celebrity Dinner and the Nova Scotia Special Olympics. He was the communications chair for the Pan American Wheelchair Games in 1982.

Away from the arena, he spent many years assisting national and local ostomy associations.

Awards? Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame volunteer of the year twice (1990, 2004), Nova Scotia Special Olympics volunteer of the year (1991), Easter Seals March of Dimes national award (1997), Peter Gzowski Literacy Award of Merit (2002), and Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal (2003). He wrote a biography of Pat Connolly, the noted Nova Scotia sports personality and Hall of Famer, that was published in 2013. The Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame's volunteer of the year award is now named in Jacobson's memory.

Atlantic University Sport executive director Phil Currie worked alongside Jacobson at numerous events over more than two decades. He called him a "kind, engaged human being" who cared deeply about sport "but took an even greater interest in the people and personalities surrounding it."

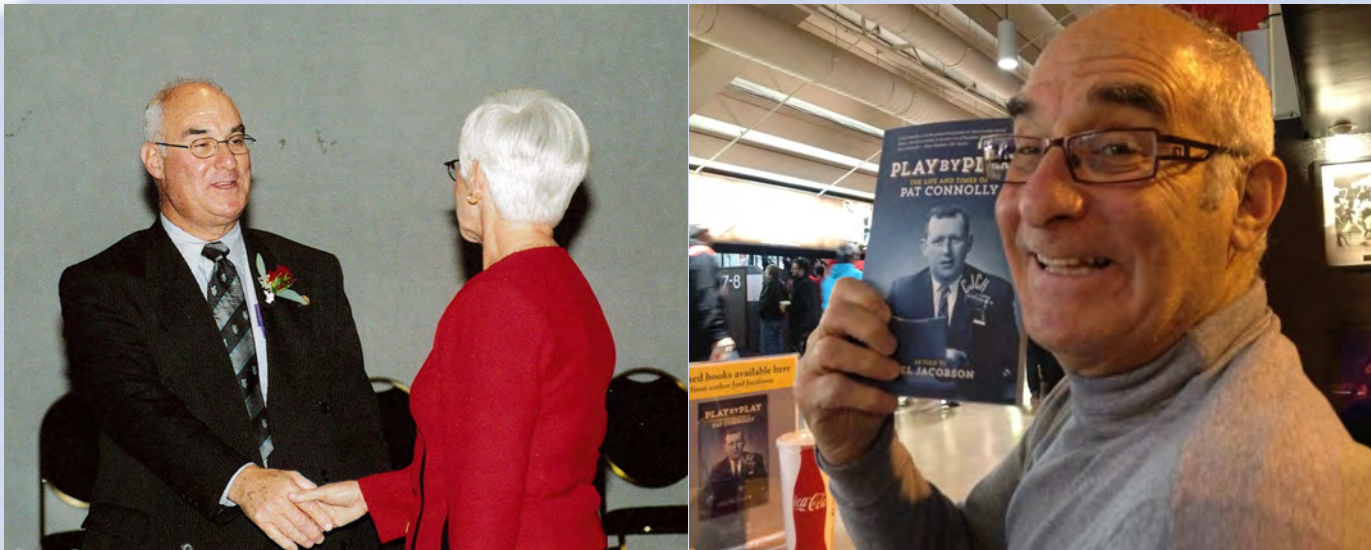
He said Jacobson dedicated a lifetime both professionally and personally "to shining a light on, but also enhancing, the Nova Scotia sport community."

Few knew Jacobson better than longtime columnist Hugh Townsend, who was a close friend and professional colleague. Townsend is also in the Hall of Fame as a builder. Jacobson was passionate about baseball and was a diehard New York Yankees fan. The two old friends had plenty to discuss over fantasy baseball. Both shared a passion for food, lively conversation, and a few well-placed barbs.

Townsend said he was honoured to know Jacobson in various capacities—as a reporter and columnist, communications director with the Nova Scotia Voyageurs, the Canadian Progress Club, AUS and U Sports events, Sport Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.

Townsend said there were "many other ways in which [Joel] assisted and served various sports groups in the metro area and across the province. And to top it off, he was a close and beloved friend for 40 years."

Monty Mosher has been a writer and editor in Nova Scotia for 40 years and was Joel Jacobson's longtime newspaper colleague and friend.



HONOURING A LEGEND

Canadian Progress Club –
Halifax is honoured to have
past member Joel Jacobson
inducted into the Nova
Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.



Joel Jacobson was Chair of the inaugural
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51st annual event in Spring of 2024.



Canadian Progress Club

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In a league of his own

JOEL JACOBSON



Dalhousie University congratulates a former Tiger being inducted into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame. Joel was an outstanding supporter of sport at Dalhousie and in Nova Scotia. His legacy is an inspiration to all who knew him.

*Celebrating the induction of
Joel Jacobson*



Joel, today we celebrate your achievements in sport, the lasting impact you've had on so many, and the beautiful person that we miss so much.

With extreme pride and loving memories,
Cathy, Jason, Jessica, Samantha and Kyle,
Debra, Ian, Olivia and AJ



Inaugural Joel Jacobson Volunteer of the Year Award



Left to Right: Lorne Abramson, Cathy Jacobson, Jason Jacobson, Gordon Sutherland

Joel Jacobson was a volunteer leader of legendary impact. Joel became a part of the S|E|A Volunteer Family in 2015, chairing the Host Committee Media Centre every year through Final 8 and University Cup Championships. To honour the legacy and dedication of Joel Jacobson, S|E|A has established the "Joel Jacobson Volunteer of the Year Award", awarded to the top performing Volunteer at a S|E|A event.

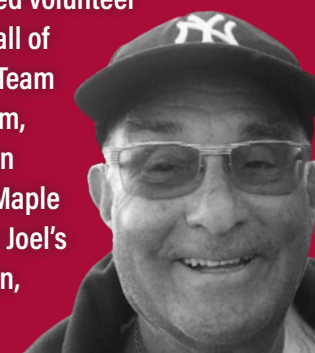


Ostomy Canada Society | Société Canadienne des Personnes Stomisées



Joel Jacobson

Ostomy Canada Society is proud of the induction of our dearly missed volunteer into the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame. Joel was an excellent Team Player, and his humour, charm, and dedication to our mission earned him our prestigious Maple Leaf Award. We congratulate Joel's wife, Cathy, and their children, Jason and Debra.



Learn more at ostomycanada.ca



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Joel Jacobson – A motivator; educator; facilitator; entertainer and true friend to Special Olympics athletes!

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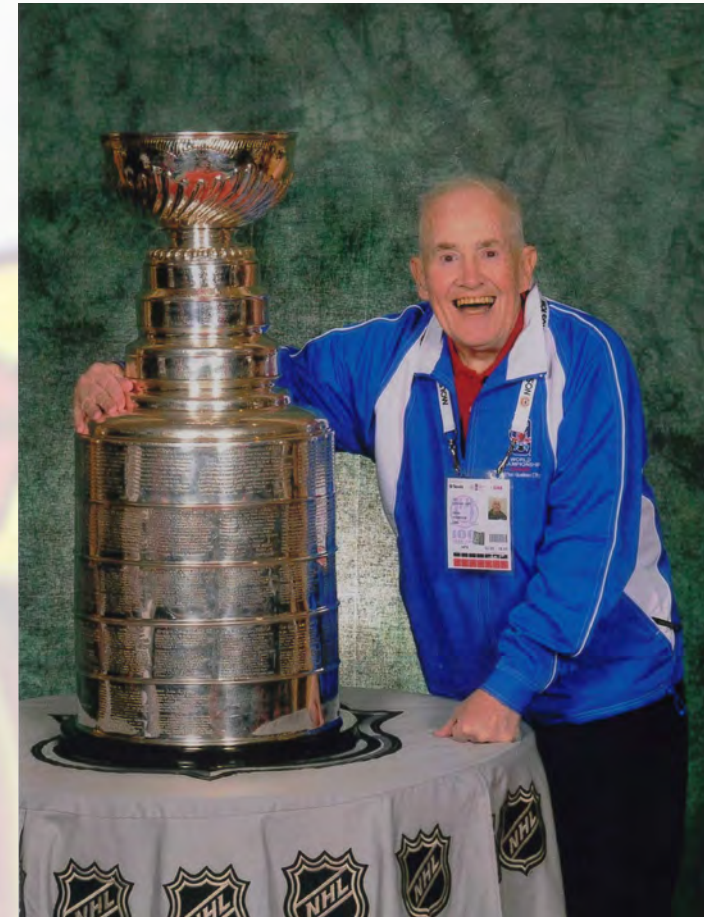
Our mission at Ostomy Halifax is to help ostomates, and their families, live life to the fullest through support, education, collaboration, and advocacy.

Joel Jacobson lived our mission. We celebrate Joel and all of the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame inductees. Congratulations!



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In Memory of Beloved Volunteer Dave Thomson

Dave started helping out at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame in the 1990s, and cheerfully greeted visitors to the museum until it closed for the pandemic and ensuing rebuild in 2020.

His father, also Dave Thomson, is inducted for baseball, and Dave has always had a big appreciation for sports. On any given Monday during the Hall's tenancy adjacent to the Scotiabank Centre, you could find Dave in his beloved Toronto Maple Leafs jersey chatting with tourists and locals alike, and always getting them to sign the guest book.

Dave passed away in the summer of 2023 and will be truly missed by his Hall of Fame family.



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NOVA SCOTIA



**Ariva® is a proud supporter of the
Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame
and congratulates all of this
year's Hall of Fame inductees!**

JOHN KEHOE

by Cindy Tye

John Kehoe is a builder in every sense of the word. From helping to grow soccer in the province to the hundreds of young people he impacted, he has spent most of his life dedicated to making things better through the sport he loves.

“He brought so much fun to the game,” remembers Nova Scotia soccer star Mary Beth Bowie. “You could tell he enjoyed it so much and it just translated to his players. You couldn’t help but to just enjoy yourself when you were playing for John.”

You could always find John Kehoe on the field, often coaching more than one team. And if a field wasn’t available, John would find a patch of grass somewhere to act as a substitute. A teacher by trade, his summers were dedicated to life on the pitch. And his

BUILDER

Photo: The Chronicle Herald



time away from the pitch was dedicated to learning more about the sport that was his passion.

“He was a student of the game,” recalls Stephanie Johnson. “He didn’t play himself, so he was self-taught. I think he watched hours and hours of film, of Premier League, of World Cups, and he passed that knowledge on to us.”

Stephanie O’Connor adds: “He would watch so many games and we would have video sessions where he would be pausing, talking, analyzing and explaining systems. You couldn’t help but learn—John was an exceptional communicator and teacher.”

For John Kehoe, soccer was a family affair, as his wife Donna tirelessly managed the teams he coached. It was no small job as he coached at every level the province—youth, senior, university, provincial, and Canada Games. Along the way, he garnered results that included countless provincial titles and national medals. There was no shortage of success found on the field for John’s teams.



“He was more than just a coach to all of us, he was like our family,” says Johnson. “He was funny, kind, he did a lot of things away from soccer for a lot of the athletes on our team. He tutored kids, he had kids live with him on the weekend, he drove kids, he was just that kind of a person. He was so much more than just a coach.”

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

Hometown: Dartmouth, NS

- Developed high-performance girls’ and women’s soccer in Nova Scotia from 1985 to 2015
- Coached teams to 11 Provincial Championships, 11 Atlantic Championships, and 13 appearances at National Championships
- Coached teams to Canada Games silver (1993) and Canadian U16 Girls silver (the first-ever medal for an Atlantic Girls squad at any age level)
- Helped develop Hall of Famers Suzanne Muir, Suzanne Gerrior, Mary Beth Bowie, and Cindy Tye

While John coached both male and female teams, it was on the female side where his impact was felt the most. Coaching one of the first female provincial teams and the first Canada Games female team, he continually fought for equity, whether it pertained to field time or funding.

He dedicated himself to providing his players opportunities for competition, travel, and a place to grow.

But what a coach he was! John Kehoe played a major role in the development of players who went on to play for their university teams, some becoming All Canadians, National Champions, or both. A few even got the chance to represent Canada on the international stage. If it wasn’t for the environment John and Donna Kehoe created, the story could have been very different.

“He just had this knack of knowing how to speak differently to every player,” recalls Carla Perry Ellis. “Some players needed a pat on the back and to be reassured that they were doing a good job. Other players needed a kick in the butt to be motivated. John just had that unique quality that he could tap into each individual player and bring out the best in them.”

John Kehoe’s ability to get the best out of his players was indeed uncanny. Through his dedication and commitment, they knew he cared about them on and off the field. From helping with homework to counselling through hard times, John and Donna were always there for their players. They accepted people for who they were, were able to draw on their strengths, and most importantly, brought teams together that created a family.

“If we had problems or things going on in our life, he was that safe space to talk to, non-judgemental, always had time for you,” remembers Johnson. “If you called him and said, ‘John I need to work on this, I’m not chipping the ball properly,’ he would find time in his schedule and meet you anytime of the day to work on what you needed to improve.”

Adds Perry Ellis: “He just saw something in us and had a belief in us that maybe we didn’t have ourselves, and he just was able to tap into that and bring us along. You know, he’s very modest, he would never say that it was anything to do with him, he would say it was all us. But that’s John, he doesn’t realize what he’s done for all of us.”

What John Kehoe did is evident when you look at the players he coached and how many have gone on to leadership roles in their respective careers. Many will credit the lessons taught through sport and the teammates who were brought together to form lifelong friendships. John Kehoe was the catalyst for all of this. He was not only a builder of his sport, but of the people he coached.

“John was able to create an environment that you felt proud to be a part of,” says Perry Ellis. “He gave you a sense of pride and joy in the game, and he taught you the importance of purpose and drive. To me, he’s the best coach there will ever be in women’s soccer.”

Cindy Tye is a Hall of Fame inductee, enshrined as an athlete for soccer in 2010.



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Congratulations to John Kehoe on being inducted into the NS Sport Hall of Fame!

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